REMARKS

Claims 7, 9, 10, 13-15, 23 and 28 are pending in the application. Claim 27 has been cancelled from the application without prejudice to the applicant's right to pursue the cancelled claim in a continuation application.

I. ALL PENDING CLAIMS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED

The examiner allowed all pending application claims except for claim 27 in the Final Rejection. Claim 27 has been cancelled from this application by way of this amendment. As a result, only allowed claims remain pending in this application.

CONCLUSION

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of pending application claims 7, 9, 10, 13-15, 23 and 27 is therefore courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

Dated: May 12, 2004

By:

A. Blair Hughes Reg. No. 32,901

312-913-2123